

Case 3054

AUGOCHLORINI Moure, 1943 (Insecta, Hymenoptera): proposed precedence over OXYSTOGLOSSINI Schrottky, 1909

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is to conserve the usage of the family-group name AUGOCHLORINI Moure, 1943 for a well known group of neotropical halictine bees. The senior tribal name OXYSTOGLOSSINI Schrottky, 1909 (type genus *Oxystoglossa* Smith, 1853) has not been used for the last 50 years, and before that only rarely; the junior name AUGOCHLORINI (type genus *Augochlora* Smith, 1853, a senior subjective synonym of *Oxystoglossa*) has become widely known and universally accepted. It is proposed that the family-group name AUGOCHLORINI be given precedence over OXYSTOGLOSSINI.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Hymenoptera; HALICTIDAE; AUGOCHLORINI; OXYSTOGLOSSINI; bees; neotropics; *Augochlora*; *Oxystoglossa*.

1. Smith (1853) established the generic names *Augochlora* (p. 73) and *Oxystoglossa* (p. 83) in a catalogue of hymenopterous insects in the collection of the British Museum. The type species of *Augochlora* is *Halictus purus* Say, 1837 (p. 395) by subsequent designation by Cockerell (1923, p. 448). The type species of *Oxystoglossa* is *Oxystoglossa decorata* Smith, 1853 (p. 83) by monotypy.

2. Ashmead (1899, p. 91), acting as first reviser, considered the two genera to be subjective synonyms and chose *Augochlora* as the valid generic name, thereby making *Oxystoglossa* the junior subjective synonym. Cockerell (1923, p. 446) recorded *Oxystoglossa* as a subgenus of *Augochlora* and designated *Halictus purus* Say, 1837 as the type species of *Augochlora*.

3. Schrottky (1909, p. 482) established a tribal name based on *Oxystoglossa*; this was misspelled as OXYTOGLOSSINI but under Article 32c(iii) of the Code is to be corrected to OXYSTOGLOSSINI. More than thirty years later Moure (1943, p. 461) established the name AUGOCHLORINI.

4. Eickwort (1969a), in a general revision of neotropical halictine bees and in an accompanying paper on the tribal classification of New World halictine bees (1969b, p. 652), was evidently unaware of the family-group name proposed in 1909 by Schrottky, and used the name AUGOCHLORINI for the group of bees related to *Augochlora*. It follows that OXYSTOGLOSSINI was not replaced in the sense of Article 40b. No author within the last 50 years has used the name OXYSTOGLOSSINI, and that family-group name was not recorded by Michener (1986) in his treatment of the family-group names among bees. Since Eickwort's classification (1969a, b), the family-group name based on *Augochlora* has been applied ubiquitously in reference to *Augochlora* and its relatives. All major treatments of the neotropical bee fauna in

the last 50 years have used the name AUGOCHLORINI to refer to the group of bees related to *Augochlora* (e.g., Michener, 1978; Moure & Hurd, 1987; Roubik, 1989; Michener, McGinley & Danforth, 1994; Griswold, Parker & Hanson, 1995). The genus *Augochlora* is a well known and wide ranging New World bee genus, and has been the focus of many biological studies (e.g., Stockhammer, 1966; Eickwort & Eickwort, 1972, 1973). Similarly, various papers treating the systematics, biology or ecology of related genera have all used the name AUGOCHLORINI (e.g., Michener, 1974; Eickwort & Sakagami, 1979; Schremmer, 1979; Packer, 1990; Radchenko & Pesenko, 1994; Engel, 1995a, b, 1996, 1997; Engel & Klein, 1997; Engel, Brooks & Yanega, 1997).

5. To use the name OXYSTOGLOSSINI in place of its junior synonym AUGOCHLORINI would bring about a change in name for a commonly encountered and well known group of bees. I therefore propose that family-group names based on *Augochlora* be given precedence over those based on *Oxystoglossa*. The family-group name based on *Oxystoglossa* would remain available for any entomologist who may in the future consider the two genera involved to belong to different family-group taxa.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to rule that the family-group name AUGOCHLORINI Moure, 1943 and other family-group names based on *Augochlora* Smith, 1853 are to be given precedence over OXYSTOGLOSSINI Schrottky, 1909 and other family-group names based on *Oxystoglossa* Smith, 1853 whenever they are considered to be synonyms;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *Augochlora* Smith, 1853 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Cockerell (1923) *Halictus purus* Say, 1837;
 - (b) *Oxystoglossa* Smith, 1853 (gender: feminine), type species by monotypy *Oxystoglossa decorata* Smith 1853;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *purus* Say, 1837, as published in the binomen *Halictus purus* (specific name of the type species of *Augochlora* Smith, 1853);
 - (b) *decorata* Smith, 1853, as published in the binomen *Oxystoglossa decorata* (specific name of the type species of *Oxystoglossa* Smith, 1853);
- (4) to place on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) AUGOCHLORINI Moure, 1943 (type genus *Augochlora* Smith, 1853), with the endorsement that it and other family-group names based on *Augochlora* are to be given precedence over OXYSTOGLOSSINI Schrottky, 1909 and other family-group names based on *Oxystoglossa* Smith, 1853 whenever they are considered to be synonyms;
 - (b) OXYSTOGLOSSINI Schrottky, 1909 (type genus *Oxystoglossa* Smith, 1853), with the endorsement that it and other family-group names based on *Oxystoglossa* are not to be given priority over AUGOCHLORINI Moure, 1943 and other family-group names based on *Augochlora* Smith, 1853 whenever they are considered to be synonyms.

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